



		LARGE ENTITY		SMALL ENTITY	
BASIC FEE		\$710.00		\$355.00	
	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE FEE	RATE FEE	
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b>	5-20 =	0	x 18 = \$0.00	x 9 = \$0.00	
<b>INDEPENDENT CLAIMS</b>	1-3 =	0	x 80 = \$0.00	x 40 = \$0.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED			+ \$270.00	+ \$135.00	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$710.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	

3.  A check in the amount of \$710.00 to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.

4.  Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. A triplicate copy of this request is enclosed.

5. Amend the specification by inserting before the first line thereof the following:

a.  --This application is a  continuation  divisional  continuation-in-part of co-pending Application No. 09/424,537, filed on November 24, 1999, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference and for which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120; and this application claims priority of Application No. filed in on under 35 U.S.C. § 119.--

b.  --This application is a  continuation  divisional  continuation-in-part of co-pending Application No. 09/424,537, filed on November 24, 1999 and for which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Application No. 09/424,537 is the national phase of PCT International Application No. PCT/EP98/03130 filed on May 27, 1998 under 35 U.S.C. § 371. The entire contents of each of the above-identified applications are hereby incorporated by reference. This application also claims priority of Application No. 197 22 021.5 filed in Germany on May 27, 1997 under 35 U.S.C. § 119.--

6.  Enclosed is/are four (4) sheet(s) of formal drawings and/or photographs.

7a.  A statement claiming small entity status was filed in prior Application No. 09/424,537 on \_\_\_\_\_. See the attached copy of the statement claiming small entity status.

7b.  The current application qualifies for small entity status.

8.  The prior application is assigned to Qiagen GmbH \_\_\_\_\_.

9.  A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.

10a.  Priority of Application No(s). \_\_\_\_ filed in \_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_ is/are claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119. See attached copy of the Letter claiming priority filed in the prior application on \_\_\_\_\_.

10b.  Priority of International Appln. PCT/EP98/03130 filed on May 27, 1998 under the Patent Cooperation Treaty and German Application No. 197 22 021.5 filed in Germany on May 27, 1997 under 35 U.S.C. § 119 are hereby reclaimed.

11.  An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 form(s) are attached hereto for the Examiner's consideration.

12.  Address all future communications to:  
  
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
Telephone: (703) 205-8000  
**or**  
Customer No. 2292

13.  An extension of time for \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) month(s) until \_\_\_\_\_ has been submitted in parent Application No. 09/424,537 in order to establish co-pendency with the present application.

14.  Also enclosed herewith is the following:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

  
By Joseph A. Kolasch, #22,463

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Attachments

(Rev. 01/23/01)